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From: CN=Tim Vendlinski/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US
Sent: Mon 5/7/2012 7:38:24 PM
Subject: Re: Mercury - BDCP
<http://www.epa.gov/region9/water/watershed/sfbay-delta/index.html>
icfi.com

Hi Erin:

I was gone last Friday and have been in meetings all morning.

I'm sending you this note to acknowledge your messages and to let you know that I've put your inquiry on my priority list.

Thanks for your patience, Tim

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From: "Healy, Erin" <EHealy@icfi.com>
To: Tim Vendlinski/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 05/07/2012 12:02 PM
Subject: Mercury - BDCP

Hi Tim,

I reviewed a few things before putting the memo together and there are two issues that I wanted to get more information, or at least your thoughts on. I've jotted them down below. You can either respond by email, or we can talk if that works better. If we don't know the answers, that's fine – I just want to make sure I'm not missing anything.

1. The approach involves treatment cells – how do you envision restoration design that both restores natural hydrology and integrates a treatment cell? It seems that there has to be some mechanism to direct the flow out of the restored area to the treatment cell. This may be especially problematic with the tidal ebb and flow in tidal wetlands, which have the highest potential for production of methylmercury under BDCP.
2. By precipitating the methylmercury out, it would essentially be concentrating the mercury from a water body into a smaller depositional environment, with the risk that it could result in high concentrations in sediment. Has the group thought of any ways to address this? Maybe at this point sediment sampling and a mass balance for mercury and methylmercury entering/leaving the treatment

cell needs to be included in the study design. I think that the sediment sampling is a bit problematic due to spatial heterogeneity, so that would need to be considered carefully in the design. Also, there could be changes over time in mercury concentrations as the mercury is taken out of the system – would need long term depth-incremental sediment sampling.

Regards,
Erin

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